

Annual Supplement
to
The Conference Board
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RECORD**

January, 1939

**The Cost of Living in the
United States in 1938**



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Supplement to The Conference Board MANAGEMENT RECORD

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The Cost of Living in the United States in 1938

THE tables in this Supplement to *The Conference Board Management Record* bring up to date the regular series of indexes of the cost of living of wage earners in the United States. Figures for earlier dates are published in THE CONFERENCE BOARD volume entitled "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1936," and in the Supplement to the *Conference Board Service Letter*, April, 1938. A detailed description of the method used by THE CONFERENCE BOARD in the construction of

its indexes of the cost of living is found in the volume previously mentioned.

Current indexes of the cost of living as a whole and of the major groups of expenditures are published monthly in *The Conference Board Management Record*. Indexes of rent, coal, gas, electricity, and carfare in individual cities are published for only one month each year, but information relating to other months is available to the Associates of THE CONFERENCE BOARD upon request.

TABLE 1: INDEXES OF THE COST OF LIVING OF WAGE EARNERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY SPECIFIED ITEMS, AND PURCHASING VALUE OF DOLLAR, 1938
1923=100

Source: National Industrial Conference Board

Date	All Items	Food ¹	Housing	Clothing			Fuel and Light			Sundries	Purchasing Value of Dollar ²
				Total Clothing	Men's Clothing	Women's Clothing	Total Fuel and Light	Coal	Gas and Electricity		
January.....	87.5	82.0	88.2	76.7	83.2	70.1	86.3	86.2	86.4	97.6	114.3
February.....	86.7	80.1	87.8	76.0	82.3	69.6	86.3	86.3	86.4	97.5	115.3
March.....	86.7	80.3	87.5	75.5	81.7	69.2	86.2	86.1	86.4	97.8	115.3
April.....	86.8	81.1	87.2	75.1	81.2	69.0	85.7	85.3	86.4	97.6	115.2
May.....	86.5	80.8	87.0	74.5	80.5	68.5	83.7	82.4	86.4	97.6	115.6
June.....	86.7	81.9	86.7	73.9	79.8	67.9	83.7	82.4	86.4	97.5	115.3
July.....	86.5	81.7	86.6	73.5	79.3	67.7	84.1	82.9	86.5	97.4	115.6
August.....	85.9	80.1	86.6	73.4	79.1	67.6	84.4	83.4	86.5	96.9	116.4
September.....	85.9	80.4	86.6	73.3	79.1	67.5	85.0	84.3	86.5	96.8	116.4
October.....	85.8	79.8	86.6	73.2	79.0	67.4	85.6	85.1	86.5	96.8	116.6
November.....	85.6	79.5	86.4	73.2	79.1	67.3	85.9	85.6	86.5	96.8	116.8
December.....	85.8	80.3	86.2	73.0	78.9	67.1	86.0	85.8	86.5	96.8	116.6
Annual average....	86.4	80.7	87.0	74.3	80.3	68.2	85.2	84.7	86.5	97.3	115.7

Note: This table brings up to date figures published in "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1936," Table 1, pp. 57-61, Table 4, pp. 69-70, Table 5, pp. 71-73 and Table 13, p. 98; and in *Supplement to Conference Board Service Letter*, April, 1938, Table 1, p. 3, Table 3, p. 5, and Table 4, p. 5.

¹Based on indexes of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²Compared with 100 cents in 1923.

Quotation of statistics and other material in this publication is permitted when due credit is given THE CONFERENCE BOARD

TABLE 2: INDEXES OF RENTS OF WAGE EARNERS' DWELLINGS IN 173 SPECIFIED CITIES, DECEMBER, 1938

Source: National Industrial Conference Board

City	1923 = 100	December, 1928 = 100	City	1923 = 100	December, 1928 = 100	City	1923 = 100	December, 1928 = 100
Akron, Ohio.....	70-79	80-89	Huntington, W. Va.....	70-79	90-99	Reading, Pa.....	70-79	70-79
Allentown, Pa.....	80-89	80-89	Indianapolis, Ind.....	50-59	70-79	Richmond, Va.....	70-79	101-110
Altoona, Pa.....	70-79	80-89	Jackson, Mich.....	101-110	80-89	Roanoke, Va.....	30-39	90-99
Atlanta, Ga.....	90-99	101-110	Jacksonville, Fla.....	101-110	111-120	Rochester, N. Y.....	90-99	101-110
Augusta, Ga.....	70-79	90-99	Jamestown, N. Y.....	1	70-79	Rockford, Ill.....	90-99	80-89
Baltimore, Md.....	80-89	90-99	Johnstown, Pa.....	70-79	80-89	Sacramento, Calif.....	1	131-140
Bayonne, N. J.....	70-79	80-99	Kalamazoo, Mich.....	1	90-99	Saginaw, Mich.....	90-99	80-89
Beaumont, Tex.....	141-150	121-130	Kansas City, Mo.....	101-110	70-79	St. Joseph, Mo.....	30-39	50-59
Bellingham, Wash.....	80-89	90-99	Knoxville, Tenn.....	40-49	60-69	St. Louis, Mo.....	70-79	80-89
Binghamton, N. Y.....	80-89	101-110	Lancaster, Pa.....	80-89	80-89	St. Paul, Minn.....	90-99	151-160
Birmingham, Ala.....	70-79	80-89	Lansing, Mich.....	111-120	161-170	Salt Lake City, Utah.....	141-150	171-180
Boston, Mass.....	101-110	101-110	Lawrence, Mass.....	1	111-120	San Antonio, Tex.....	90-99	90-99
Bridgeport, Conn.....	100	90-99	Lewiston, Me.....	2	2	San Diego, Calif.....	131-140	141-150
Brockton, Mass.....	121-130	90-99	Lexington, Ky.....	1	101-110	San Francisco, Calif.....	80-89	80-89
Buffalo, N. Y.....	80-89	70-79	Lincoln, Nebr.....	60-69	80-89	San Jose, Calif.....	50-59	60-69
Butte, Mont.....	90-99	101-110	Little Rock, Ark.....	101-110	121-130	Savannah, Ga.....	60-69	80-89
Cambridge, Mass.....	80-89	101-110	Los Angeles, Calif.....	70-79	111-120	Schenectady, N. Y.....	90-99	90-99
Camden, N. J.....	80-89	80-89	Louisville, Ky.....	60-69	70-79	Scranton, Pa.....	30-39	70-79
Canton, Ohio.....	70-79	111-120	Lowell, Mass.....	70-79	101-110	Seattle, Wash.....	90-99	90-99
Charleston, S. C.....	101-110	90-99	Lynn, Mass.....	50-59	70-79	Shreveport, La.....	1	101-110
Charleston, W. Va.....	1	90-99	Macon, Ga.....	70-79	60-69	Sioux City, Iowa.....	50-59	50-59
Chattanooga, Tenn.....	90-99	101-110	Madison, Wis.....	101-110	121-130	Sioux Falls, S. Dak.....	40-49	80-89
Chester, Pa.....	80-89	70-79	Malden, Mass.....	2	2	Somerville, Mass.....	80-89	80-89
Chicago, Ill.....	70-79	80-89	Manchester, N. H.....	80-89	90-99	South Bend, Ind.....	80-89	101-110
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	90-99	80-89	Memphis, Tenn.....	90-99	80-89	Spokane, Wash.....	90-99	90-99
Cleveland, Ohio.....	60-69	80-89	Meriden, Conn.....	1	80-89	Springfield, Ill.....	70-79	101-110
Columbia, S. C.....	80-89	101-110	Milwaukee, Wis.....	80-89	101-110	Springfield, Mass.....	80-89	101-110
Columbus, Ga.....	1	60-69	Minneapolis, Minn.....	101-110	111-120	Springfield, Ohio.....	60-69	80-89
Columbus, Ohio.....	80-89	90-99	Mobile, Ala.....	90-99	111-120	Stamford, Conn.....	1	90-99
Council Bluffs, Iowa.....	50-59	90-99	Montgomery, Ala.....	1	101-110	Superior, Wis.....	50-59	50-59
Covington, Ky.....	70-79	80-89	Muncie, Ind.....	1	80-89	Syracuse, N. Y.....	90-99	111-120
Dallas, Tex.....	70-79	90-99	Muskogee, Okla.....	1	80-89	Tacoma, Wash.....	101-110	111-120
Danville, Ill.....	20-29	50-59	Nashville, Tenn.....	50-59	90-99	Tampa, Fla.....	80-89	60-69
Davenport, Iowa.....	50-59	121-130	Newark, N. J.....	111-120	111-120	Taunton, Mass.....	2	2
Dayton, Ohio.....	111-120	90-99	New Bedford, Mass.....	50-59	80-89	Terre Haute, Ind.....	50-59	101-110
Denver, Colo.....	70-79	101-110	New Britain, Conn.....	50-59	90-99	Toledo, Ohio.....	70-79	70-79
Des Moines, Iowa.....	40-49	80-89	New Haven, Conn.....	90-99	80-89	Topeka, Kans.....	50-59	60-69
Detroit, Mich.....	80-89	90-99	New Orleans, La.....	60-69	70-79	Trenton, N. J.....	80-89	111-120
Dubuque, Iowa.....	90-99	101-110	New York, N. Y.....	80-89	80-89	Tulsa, Okla.....	101-110	111-120
Duluth, Minn.....	100	121-130	Niagara Falls, N. Y.....	70-79	90-99	Utica, N. Y.....	70-79	80-89
East St. Louis, Ill.....	80-89	80-89	Norfolk, Va.....	70-79	90-99	Warren, Ohio.....	60-69	80-89
El Paso, Tex.....	111-120	101-110	Oklahoma City, Okla.....	171-180	151-160	Washington, D. C.....	3	3
Erie, Pa.....	101-110	90-99	Omaha, Nebr.....	60-69	101-110	Waterbury, Conn.....	60-69	80-89
Evansville, Ind.....	111-120	111-120	Paterson, N. J.....	70-79	60-69	Waterloo, Iowa.....	131-140	101-110
Fall River, Mass.....	90-99	101-110	Pawtucket, R. I.....	2	2	Watertown, N. Y.....	1	90-99
Fitchburg, Mass.....	1	121-130	Peoria, Ill.....	70-79	101-110	Wheeling, W. Va.....	1	90-99
Flint, Mich.....	80-89	80-89	Perth Amboy, N. J.....	1	70-79	Wichita, Kans.....	60-69	60-69
Fresno, Calif.....	1	90-99	Philadelphia, Pa.....	70-79	70-79	Wichita Falls, Tex.....	1	80-89
Fort Wayne, Ind.....	70-79	111-120	Phoenix, Ariz.....	90-99	70-79	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.....	80-89	70-79
Fort Worth, Tex.....	80-89	101-110	Pittsburgh, Pa.....	101-110	101-110	Williamsport, Pa.....	1	70-79
Gary, Ind.....	60-69	80-89	Pittsfield, Mass.....	1	90-99	Wilmington, Del.....	70-79	80-89
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	141-150	111-120	Portland, Me.....	60-69	60-69	Wilmington, N. C.....	1	80-89
Hamilton, Ohio.....	131-140	121-130	Portland, Oreg.....	70-79	111-120	Winston-Salem, N. C.....	1	50-59
Harrisburg, Pa.....	50-59	80-89	Portsmouth, Va.....	70-79	90-99	Woonsocket, R. I.....	1	80-89
Hartford, Conn.....	90-99	80-89	Providence, R. I.....	80-89	80-89	Worcester, Mass.....	70-79	80-89
Haverhill, Mass.....	30-39	80-89	Pueblo, Colo.....	90-99	90-99	York, Pa.....	60-69	80-89
Holyoke, Mass.....	90-99	111-120	Quincy, Ill.....	1	80-89	Youngstown, Ohio.....	121-130	101-110
Houston, Tex.....	50-59	80-89	Racine, Wis.....	111-120	90-99			

Note: This table brings up to date figures published in "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1936," Table 2, pp. 62-67, and Table 3, p. 68; and in Supplement to Conference Board Service Letter, April, 1938, Table 2, pp. 4-5.

¹Added to the study in December, 1928, hence the indexes are not available on a 1923 base.

²No report.

³Inadequate reports.

TABLE 3: INDEXES OF RETAIL PRICES OF COAL FOR HOUSEHOLD USE IN 95 SPECIFIED CITIES, NOVEMBER, 1938
Source: National Industrial Conference Board

Locality	1923 = 100			December, 1928 = 100			Locality	1923 = 100			December, 1928 = 100		
	Anthracite		Bitu- minous	Anthracite		Bitu- minous		Anthracite		Bitu- minous	Anthracite		Bitu- minous
	Stove	Chest- nut		Stove	Chest- nut			Stove	Chest- nut		Stove	Chest- nut	
United States.....	85.1	85.2	87.5	83.5	85.8	98.9	South (Continued)						
East.....	84.5	80.4	83.8	83.4	82.4	100.5	Nashville, Tenn.....	1	1	1	2	2	79.7
Altoona, Pa.....	1	1	1	2	2	70.5	New Orleans, La.....	94.0	90.5	104.7	92.7	91.1	86.6
Baltimore, Md.....	88.8	76.7	54.5	68.0	70.5	97.6	Norfolk, Va.....	1	1	1	86.1	86.1	95.3
Boston, Mass.....	100.2	94.0	74.6	83.7	84.4	89.7	Oklahoma City, Okla.	1	1	4	2	2	4
Bridgeport, Conn.....	48.3	48.1	108.9	81.0	81.0	114.1	Richmond, Va.....	1	1	1	81.1	83.3	105.8
Buffalo, N. Y.....	94.1	87.3	84.5	86.7	89.5	101.1	Roanoke, Va.....	1	1	1	2	2	111.9
Cambridge, Mass.....	102.0	100.9	70.6	80.4	80.9	97.8	San Antonio, Tex.....	1	1	1	2	2	96.0
Erie, Pa.....	1	1	1	77.5	81.2	133.9	Savannah, Ga.....	1	1	1	98.4	94.6	90.5
Fall River, Mass.....	88.3	92.4	108.0	83.1	82.6	113.7	Wheeling, W. Va.....	1	1	1	2	2	107.9
Hartford, Conn.....	1	1	1	84.9	86.9	100.5	Winston-Salem, N.C.	1	1	1	2	2	94.7
Holyoke, Mass.....	1	1	1	86.3	87.9	92.3	Middle West.....	89.2	95.2	85.8	86.5	93.1	100.8
Lancaster, Pa.....	1	1	1	80.2	83.7	86.8	Akron, Ohio.....	1	1	1	94.3	100.2	111.9
Lawrence, Mass.....	82.0	80.5	89.9	87.9	90.7	119.1	Chicago, Ill.....	127.3	126.2	90.9	95.9	93.7	101.5
Lowell, Mass.....	81.1	87.8	3	83.4	87.6	91.3	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	2	2	70.1	2	2	113.1
Lynn, Mass.....	82.2	82.8	95.2	94.4	95.1	91.0	Cleveland, Ohio.....	91.4	97.8	80.9	88.9	91.5	99.1
Manchester, N. H.....	71.6	70.7	102.5	82.0	82.8	114.4	Columbus, Ohio.....	2	2	84.7	2	2	114.4
Newark, N. J.....	68.1	65.5	3	81.3	84.6	108.7	Davenport, Iowa.....	1	1	1	2	2	118.5
New Bedford, Mass.....	1	1	1	86.4	100.9	107.5	Des Moines, Iowa.....	1	1	1	2	2	100.0
New Britain, Conn.....	62.3	67.6	125.7	80.2	81.4	91.8	Detroit, Mich.....	69.9	67.4	90.8	80.0	83.0	85.0
New Haven, Conn.....	84.7	78.7	78.4	85.1	81.8	102.9	Duluth, Minn.....	130.2	117.4	104.4	92.7	95.3	112.2
New York, N. Y.....	83.5	85.9	88.6	76.8	79.3	97.8	Fort Wayne, Ind.....	1	1	1	81.9	81.6	93.4
Philadelphia, Pa.....	67.1	64.0	70.7	69.9	73.9	88.1	Grand Rapids, Mich.	74.7	72.7	72.7	75.5	75.8	94.3
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	2	2	89.2	2	2	99.3	Indianapolis, Ind.....	2	2	100.1	2	2	102.2
Portland, Me.....	72.4	72.2	67.2	75.3	75.6	83.5	Kansas City, Mo.....	2	2	87.0	2	2	88.1
Providence, R. I.....	87.5	83.0	74.6	82.1	81.1	90.1	Lincoln, Nebr.....	1	1	1	2	2	94.6
Rochester, N. Y.....	103.2	102.4	2	86.1	88.5	2	Milwaukee, Wis.....	83.2	76.1	74.3	83.7	86.4	102.7
Schenectady, N. Y.....	88.9	91.7	2	81.7	85.0	2	Minneapolis, Minn.....	95.8	98.0	97.8	90.9	94.4	113.2
Scranton, Pa.....	1	1	5	75.0	75.7	5	Omaha, Nebr.....	2	2	3	2	2	100.7
Springfield, Mass.....	84.0	85.1	69.9	88.9	90.2	105.9	Peoria, Ill.....	5	5	5	5	5	5
Syracuse, N. Y.....	100.5	106.3	2	80.0	83.9	2	Racine, Wis.....	1	1	1	80.0	77.6	98.8
Trenton, N. J.....	74.8	71.0	84.4	70.5	76.5	103.3	St. Louis, Mo.....	86.1	86.4	128.2	84.5	87.1	111.2
Washington, D. C.....	81.1	89.7	86.1	81.7	84.9	99.6	St. Paul, Minn.....	95.2	97.8	109.3	93.7	97.1	116.6
Wilmington, Del.....	81.8	75.7	89.8	84.9	80.8	105.7	Sioux Falls, S. Dak..	1	1	1	85.7	83.7	101.2
Worcester, Mass.....	1	1	1	82.5	86.1	98.1	South Bend, Ind.....	1	1	1	75.8	76.4	76.8
South.....	88.5	93.7	93.3	89.6	95.3	95.7	Springfield, Ill.....	1	1	1	2	2	115.5
Atlanta, Ga.....	2	2	94.1	2	2	107.9	Toledo, Ohio.....	1	1	1	89.0	90.3	104.8
Birmingham, Ala.....	2	2	88.7	2	2	80.2	Wichita, Kans.....	1	1	1	2	2	75.7
Charleston, S. C.....	81.0	82.7	81.3	91.4	92.1	97.5	Youngstown, Ohio..	1	1	1	2	2	116.4
Charlotte, N. C.....	1	1	1	2	2	92.8	Far West.....	2	2	96.3	2	2	95.6
Covington, Ky.....	1	1	1	2	2	108.6	Bellingham, Wash...	1	1	1	2	2	95.5
Dallas, Tex.....	2	2	77.4	2	2	86.2	Butte, Mont.....	2	2	94.1	2	2	96.5
El Paso, Tex.....	1	1	1	2	2	106.8	Denver, Colo.....	2	2	82.6	2	2	73.9
Houston, Tex.....	1	1	1	2	2	120.5	Los Angeles, Calif...	2	2	98.6	2	2	96.9
Jacksonville, Fla.....	91.7	82.6	83.7	83.7	83.7	95.8	Portland, Oreg.....	2	2	106.2	2	2	102.2
Knoxville, Tenn.....	1	1	1	2	2	97.4	Sacramento, Calif...	1	1	1	2	2	86.3
Little Rock, Ark.....	2	2	84.4	2	2	98.1	Salt Lake City, Utah	2	2	89.4	2	2	80.9
Louisville, Ky.....	2	2	70.0	2	2	80.1	San Francisco, Calif.	2	2	82.7	2	2	85.2
Macon, Ga.....	2	2	103.4	2	2	103.9	Seattle, Wash.....	2	2	106.4	2	2	124.4
Memphis, Tenn.....	2	2	86.4	2	2	94.8	Spokane, Wash.....	1	1	1	2	2	97.1
Mobile, Ala.....	1	1	1	2	2	97.3							

Note: This table brings up to date figures published in "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1936," Table 6, pp. 74-77, and Table 7, pp. 78-79; and in Supplement to Conference Board Service Letter, April, 1938, Table 5, pp. 6-7.

¹Added to the study in December, 1928, hence the indexes are not available on a 1923 base.

²No indexes because little of this type of coal is sold.

³No report in 1923, hence no indexes.

⁴Inadequate reports.

⁵No report.

TABLE 4: INDEXES OF THE COST OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY FOR HOUSEHOLD USE IN 174 SPECIFIED CITIES, JULY, 1938

Source: National Industrial Conference Board

City	Gas		Electricity		City	Gas		Electricity		City	Gas		Electricity	
	1923 = 100	June, 1928 = 100	1923 = 100	June, 1928 = 100		1923 = 100	June, 1928 = 100	1923 = 100	June, 1928 = 100		1923 = 100	June, 1928 = 100	1923 = 100	June, 1928 = 100
Akron, Ohio ¹	186.7	98.8	69.5	69.5	Huntington, W. Va. ¹	150.0	150.0	67.5	67.5	Racine, Wis.	92.6	100.0	63.9	76.4
Allentown, Pa.	97.7	97.7	73.1	73.1	Indianapolis, Ind.	73.9	89.5	76.6	82.5	Reading, Pa.	94.1	94.1	66.1	73.4
Altoona, Pa. ¹	30.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Jackson, Mich.	100.0	100.0	70.4	70.4	Richmond, Va.	100.0	100.0	55.4	58.7
Atlanta, Ga. ¹	54.8	54.8	66.9	66.9	Jacksonville, Fla.	97.8	100.0	85.7	85.7	Roanoke, Va.	100.0	100.0	60.7	60.7
Augusta, Ga.	82.4	82.4	60.3	60.3	Jamestown, N. Y. ²	100.0	100.0	69.6	69.6	Rochester, N. Y.	100.0	100.0	72.9	72.9
Baltimore, Md.	100.0	100.0	64.3	73.5	Johnstown, Pa. ¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Rockford, Ill.	95.0	95.0	62.7	69.0
Bayonne, N. J.	106.8	111.3	76.3	76.3	Kalamazoo, Mich.	96.2	96.2	75.0	75.0	Sacramento, Calif. ¹	59.5	59.8	78.2	78.2
Beaumont, Tex. ¹	90.7	90.7	71.6	71.6	Kansas City, Kans. ¹	99.1	94.5	100.0	100.0	Saginaw, Mich. ¹	50.0	50.0	70.4	70.4
Bellingham, Wash.	76.9	76.9	71.4	71.4	Kansas City, Mo. ¹	100.0	100.0	72.6	77.8	St. Joseph, Mo. ¹	48.5	48.5	71.2	71.2
Binghamton, N. Y. ²	103.5	103.5	84.8	89.6	Knoxville, Tenn.	85.6	87.7	62.6	62.3	St. Louis, Mo. ²	110.5	110.5	80.4	80.4
Birmingham, Ala.	100.0	100.0	59.0	59.0	Lancaster, Pa.	100.0	100.0	73.1	73.1	St. Paul, Minn.	120.0	113.3	56.2	62.5
Boston, Mass.	100.0	104.2	65.5	73.2	Lansing, Mich. ¹	72.0	72.0	78.6	78.6	Salt Lake City, Utah ¹	54.8	55.6	73.9	73.9
Bridgeport, Conn.	96.7	100.0	66.7	83.3	Lawrence, Mass.	94.1	101.1	56.6	70.8	San Antonio, Tex. ¹	74.0	77.8	55.6	69.4
Brockton, Mass.	97.3	100.0	84.7	90.0	Lewiston, Me.	100.0	100.0	83.9	83.9	San Diego, Calif. ¹	80.5	81.2	67.0	77.6
Buffalo, N. Y. ²	108.3	100.0	84.2	97.4	Lexington, Ky. ¹	124.2	124.2	80.8	80.8	San Francisco, Calif. ¹	69.0	67.6	72.0	77.2
Butte, Mont. ¹	23.8	23.8	87.5	87.5	Lincoln, Nebr. ¹	50.6	51.9	96.8	96.8	San Jose, Calif. ¹	58.2	58.2	78.2	78.2
Cambridge, Mass.	92.0	100.0	58.8	62.5	Little Rock, Ark. ¹	114.3	100.0	64.3	64.3	Savannah, Ga.	86.2	86.2	67.3	67.3
Camden, N. J.	106.8	111.3	76.3	76.3	Los Angeles, Calif. ¹	106.5	106.5	78.6	88.0	Schenectady, N. Y.	90.8	92.5	68.7	66.8
Canton, Ohio ¹	105.0	98.8	66.7	66.7	Louisville, Ky. ²	66.7	66.7	61.7	61.7	Scranton, Pa.	101.7	100.0	60.3	60.3
Charleston, S. C.	90.3	90.3	57.1	57.1	Lowell, Mass.	95.4	100.0	74.0	78.1	Seattle, Wash.	103.0	103.0	90.7	90.7
Charleston, W. Va. ¹	150.0	150.0	67.5	67.5	Lynn, Mass.	92.3	100.0	58.0	72.5	Shreveport, La. ¹	100.0	100.0	72.2	72.2
Chattanooga, Tenn.	84.9	88.6	57.5	57.5	Macon, Ga. ¹	51.5	51.5	60.3	60.3	Sioux City, Iowa	84.0	84.0	53.3	53.3
Chester, Pa.	77.9	100.0	77.8	77.8	Madison, Wis.	92.6	92.6	69.5	69.5	Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ¹	64.0	64.0	71.2	71.2
Chicago, Ill. ²	106.6	110.8	85.0	93.2	Malden, Mass.	102.1	102.1	64.5	64.5	Somerville, Mass.	94.2	102.1	65.5	73.2
Cincinnati, Ohio ²	145.0	96.7	47.0	52.0	Manchester, N. H.	92.5	100.0	72.5	79.0	South Bend, Ind.	98.4	98.4	77.9	77.9
Cleveland, Ohio ¹	71.4	66.7	80.0	80.0	Memphis, Tenn. ¹	59.6	59.6	72.8	72.8	Spokane, Wash.	102.0	100.0	76.5	97.3
Columbia, S. C.	100.0	100.0	70.1	70.1	Meriden, Conn.	102.5	102.5	82.4	82.4	Springfield, Ill. ¹	67.0	72.4	87.2	87.2
Columbus, Ga. ¹	52.9	52.9	54.3	54.3	Milwaukee, Wis.	102.4	102.4	58.1	74.7	Springfield, Mass.	100.7	100.7	61.3	91.9
Columbus, Ohio ¹	117.8	110.4	70.6	70.6	Minneapolis, Minn. ²	101.5	109.0	59.5	59.5	Springfield, Ohio ¹	120.0	100.0	71.5	75.9
Council Bluffs, Iowa ¹	64.3	64.3	86.0	86.0	Mobile, Ala. ¹	59.2	54.9	54.6	54.6	Stamford, Conn.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Covington, Ky. ¹	161.1	96.7	43.5	43.5	Montgomery, Ala. ¹	61.7	61.7	64.7	64.7	Superior, Wis.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Dallas, Tex. ¹	143.0	100.0	79.0	79.0	Muncie, Ind.	100.0	100.0	82.9	82.9	Syracuse, N. Y. ²	91.2	91.2	78.2	78.2
Danville, Ill. ¹	87.6	87.6	65.7	65.7	Muskogee, Okla. ¹	62.5	62.5	68.5	68.5	Tacoma, Wash.	100.0	100.0	90.0	100.0
Davenport, Iowa ¹	75.4	75.4	60.8	60.8	Nashville, Tenn.	73.0	73.0	49.6	54.6	Tampa, Fla.	99.5	99.5	77.3	83.4
Dayton, Ohio ¹	133.0	95.0	61.1	65.3	Newark, N. J.	106.8	111.3	76.3	76.3	Taunton, Mass.	100.0	100.0	52.4	52.4
Denver, Colo. ¹	94.7	100.0	78.8	93.3	New Bedford, Mass.	100.0	100.0	52.9	66.2	Terre Haute, Ind.	100.0	100.0	90.8	90.8
Des Moines, Iowa ²	86.5	86.5	70.3	70.3	New Britain, Conn.	93.8	100.0	82.4	82.4	Toledo, Ohio ¹	93.1	93.1	73.5	73.5
Detroit, Mich. ¹	89.9	89.9	86.3	97.7	New Haven, Conn.	96.0	100.0	66.7	83.3	Topeka, Kans. ¹	87.2	87.2	69.4	69.4
Dubuque, Iowa	89.7	89.7	67.9	67.9	New Orleans, La. ¹	44.2	44.2	78.1	78.1	Trenton, N. J.	106.8	111.3	76.3	76.3
Duluth, Minn.	116.7	116.7	91.9	91.9	New York, N. Y.	97.4	95.5	73.4	73.4	Tulsa, Okla. ¹	69.2	78.9	82.2	83.2
East St. Louis, Ill.	100.0	100.0	86.0	86.0	Niagara Falls, N. Y.	65.2	90.9	94.4	94.4	Utica, N. Y.	97.4	96.3	81.8	81.8
El Paso, Tex. ¹	57.7	57.7	68.5	68.5	Norfolk, Va.	85.7	88.9	55.4	58.7	Warren, Ohio ¹	98.8	98.8	94.3	94.3
Erie, Pa. ²	100.0	100.0	72.6	76.7	Oklahoma City, Okla. ¹	66.2	78.9	72.0	76.1	Washington, D. C. ²	85.5	85.5	39.0	66.2
Evansville, Ind. ¹	100.0	100.0	79.7	79.7	Omaha, Nebr.	62.5	71.4	86.0	86.0	Waterbury, Conn.	95.7	95.7	82.4	82.4
Fall River, Mass.	109.6	109.6	75.7	85.2	Paterson, N. J.	106.8	111.3	76.3	76.3	Waterloo, Iowa	85.0	85.0	65.4	65.4
Fitchburg, Mass.	100.0	100.0	81.7	81.7	Pawtucket, R. I.	93.8	93.8	82.7	82.7	Watertown, N. Y.	94.1	94.1	85.4	85.4
Flint, Mich.	96.2	100.0	79.3	79.3	Peoria, Ill.	83.3	83.3	73.2	73.2	Wheeling, W. Va. ¹	111.1	100.0	57.0	57.0
Fort Wayne, Ind. ¹	80.0	80.0	50.2	70.3	Perth Amboy, N. J.	101.9	101.9	76.3	76.3	Wichita, Kans. ¹	78.5	46.2	100.0	100.0
Fort Worth, Tex. ¹	143.0	143.0	62.4	76.8	Philadelphia, Pa.	90.0	90.0	73.9	73.9	Wichita, Falls, Tex. ¹	100.0	100.0	54.7	54.7
Fresno, Calif. ¹	54.1	54.1	72.4	72.4	Phoenix, Ariz. ¹	91.7	91.7	78.7	78.7	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	100.0	100.0	100.9	100.9
Gary, Ind.	100.0	100.0	86.5	86.5	Pittsburgh, Pa. ¹	120.0	100.0	70.3	83.3	Williamsport, Pa. ¹	81.3	81.3	73.4	73.4
Grand Rapids, Mich. ¹	79.7	80.5	77.4	79.3	Pittsfield, Mass.	100.0	100.0	84.3	84.3	Wilmington, Del.	93.8	93.8	64.8	68.6
Hamilton, Ohio ²	100.0	100.0	55.1	55.1	Portland, Me.	92.3	100.0	88.7	88.7	Wilmington, N. C.	94.7	94.7	64.8	64.8
Harrisburg, Pa.	115.0	100.0	90.4	90.4	Portland, Oreg.	100.8	100.0	94.0	94.0	Winston-Salem, N. C.	100.0	100.0	70.0	70.0
Hartford, Conn.	100.0	100.0	83.4	88.9	Portsmouth, Va.	89.6	86.7	55.4	58.7	Woonsocket, R. I.	93.8	93.8	82.7	82.7
Haverhill, Mass.	100.0	100.0	70.2	82.2	Providence, R. I.	96.2	100.0	80.4	84.9	Worcester, Mass.	93.4	99.7	64.7	69.4
Holyoke, Mass.	101.9	110.0	66.5	88.6	Pueblo, Colo. ¹	52.6	52.6	74.6	74.6	York, Pa.	100.0	100.0	85.8	85.8
Houston, Tex. ¹	52.8	100.0	87.9	87.9	Quincy, Ill. ¹	90.7	90.7	80.9	80.9	Youngstown, Ohio ¹	87.5	82.4	76.5	76.5

Note: This table brings up to date figures published in "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1936," Table 8, pp. 80-82, and Table 9, pp. 82-83; and in Supplement to Conference Board Service Letter, April, 1938, Table 6, pp. 7-9.

¹Natural gas.

²Mixed gas.

³Added to the study in June, 1928, hence the indexes are not available on a 1923 base.

TABLE 5: INDEXES OF THE COST OF COAL AND GAS AND ELECTRICITY
FOR HOUSEHOLD USE, 1938
1923=100

Source: National Industrial Conference Board

Date	Total Fuel and Light	Coal					Gas and Elec- tricity
		Total Coal	Anthracite			Bitu- minous	
			Stove and Chestnut Combined	Stove	Chestnut		
January.....	86.3	86.2	85.2	85.1	85.2	88.9	86.4
February.....	86.3	86.3	85.2	85.1	85.2	89.1	86.4
March.....	86.2	86.1	85.1	85.1	85.1	88.7	86.4
April.....	85.7	85.3	84.0	83.9	84.0	88.1	86.4
May.....	83.7	82.4	81.0	81.0	81.0	85.4	86.4
June.....	83.7	82.4	81.3	81.2	81.3	85.0	86.4
July.....	84.1	82.9	82.1	82.0	82.1	85.4	86.5
August.....	84.4	83.4	82.9	82.9	82.8	85.4	86.5
September.....	85.0	84.3	84.0	83.9	84.0	86.3	86.5
October.....	85.6	85.1	84.7	84.7	84.7	87.1	86.5
November.....	85.9	85.6	85.2	85.1	85.2	87.5	86.5
December.....	86.0	85.8	85.5	85.4	85.5	87.7	86.5
Annual average.	85.2	84.7	83.8	83.8	83.8	87.1	86.5

Note: This table brings up to date figures published in "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1936," Table 5, pp. 71-73; and in *Supplement to Conference Board Service Letter*, April, 1938, Table 4, p. 5.

TABLE 6: RATES OF CARFARE IN 9 CITIES
IN WHICH CHANGES OCCURRED,
DECEMBER, 1937, TO DECEMBER, 1938

Source: National Industrial Conference Board. Based on Data from American Transit Association

City	Rate	Index 1923=100
Augusta, Ga.....	\$0.050	71.4
Charleston, S. C.....	.050	79.4
Jacksonville, Fla.....	.067	95.7
Kansas City, Kans.....	.063	90.0
Kansas City, Mo.....	.063	90.0
Long Beach, Calif.....	.060	100.0
Los Angeles, Calif. ¹	.063	108.6
Miami, Fla.....	.050	100.0
San Francisco, Calif. ²	.058	116.0

Note: This table shows the carfare rates only in the cities in which changes occurred during 1938. For information concerning rates of carfare in each of the 289 cities included in the survey see "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1936," Table 12, pp. 88-97, and *Supplement to Conference Board Service Letter*, April, 1938, Table 7, pp. 10-11.

¹Weighted average; weights used are 85 for Los Angeles Railway Corporation and 15 for Pacific Electric Railway Company.

²Weighted average; weights used are 65 for Market Street Railway Company and 35 for Municipal Railway of San Francisco.

TABLE 7: INDEXES OF THE COST OF SUNDRIES, BY SPECIFIED ITEMS, 1938
1923=100

Source: National Industrial Conference Board

Date	Sundries	Carfare	Physicians' Fees	Drugs and Toilet Articles	Reading	Recreation	House-furnishings	Organiza-tion Dues	Tobacco	Candy
January.....	97.6	112.3	100.0	94.4	93.1	95.9	103.6	100.0	87.0	86.8
February.....	97.5	112.3	100.0	94.5	93.1	95.9	103.1	100.0	87.0	85.8
March.....	97.8	112.3	100.0	94.6	95.6	95.9	102.5	100.0	87.0	85.8
April.....	97.6	112.0	100.0	94.8	95.6	95.9	101.7	100.0	87.0	85.6
May.....	97.6	112.6	100.0	95.0	95.6	95.9	101.1	100.0	87.0	85.1
June.....	97.5	112.6	100.0	95.0	95.6	95.9	100.6	100.0	87.0	83.9
July.....	97.4	112.6	100.0	94.9	95.6	95.9	100.4	100.0	87.0	83.9
August.....	96.9	112.6	100.0	94.6	95.6	95.9	100.0	100.0	83.3	84.1
September.....	96.8	112.6	100.0	94.5	95.6	95.9	99.8	100.0	83.3	83.8
October.....	96.8	112.6	100.0	94.4	95.6	96.2	99.5	100.0	83.3	83.8
November.....	96.8	112.5	100.0	94.3	95.6	96.2	99.5	100.0	83.3	83.7
December.....	96.8	112.5	100.0	94.4	95.6	96.2	99.5	100.0	83.3	83.4
Annual average.....	97.3	112.5	100.0	94.6	95.2	96.0	100.9	100.0	85.5	84.6

Note: This table brings up to date figures published in "Cost of Living in the United States, 1914-1936," Table 11, pp. 85-87; and in *Supplement to Conference Board Service Letter*, April, 1938, Table 8, p. 11.

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